

Appl. No.: (not yet assigned)  
(U.S. National Stage of PCT/AT03/00170)  
Preliminary Amdt. Dated December 20, 2004

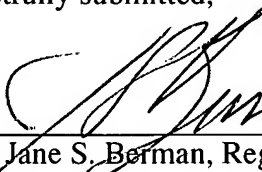
**REMARKS:**

By this Amendment, claims 1-10 currently pending in the international application have been amended, and new claims 11-20 have been added, in order to remove multiple dependency and to more clearly define the invention under U.S. rules.

The contents of the priority application Austrian App. Ser. No. A967/2002 filed June 27, 2002, and the international application PCT/AT03/00170 filed June 16, 2003, are herein incorporated by reference. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this communication to our Deposit Account No. 50-0305.

The Examiner is encouraged to call the attorneys for Applicant(s) at the direct number (312) 845-3919 with any questions that arise in connection with this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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